

## The Crystal Structure of 2-Bromo- and 2,6-Dibromo-3,3,5,5-tetramethylcyclohexanone

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2-Bromo- and 2,6-dibromo-3,3,5,5-tetramethylcyclohexanone both crystallize in the space group  $P2_12_12_1$ . This space group is rather unexpected in both cases but in the first case D and L enantiomorphs must separate side by side from the originally optically inactive material and in the second case internal compensation of the asymmetric carbon atoms 2 and 6 leads to a molecule with a plane of symmetry. The structures were solved by conventional heavy-atom techniques and refined by Fourier and least-squares methods. Strain in the cyclohexanone rings resulting from the short distances between axial methyl groups was found to occur mainly at C(4) where the ring angle is increased to about  $120^\circ$ , and at the opposite ring angle at C(1) (*i.e.* at the carbonyl group) where the angle is reduced to about  $110^\circ$ , the strain being very similar for both compounds. These strains are discussed and the geometry of the molecules compared with molecules based on undistorted cyclohexanone rings.

### Introduction

The crystal structures of 2-bromo- and 2,6-dibromo-3,3,5,5-tetramethylcyclohexanone have been determined in order to investigate the molecular strain resulting from short distances between the axial methyl groups. Anomalous conformational equilibrium effects have been observed by Sandris & Ourisson (1958), who explained them in terms of a 'reflex' effect — a rocking apart of the axial methyl groups with a consequent deformation of the ring angles. An X-ray analysis of these structures confirms these deformations and the geometry of the strained molecules is compared with ideal cyclohexanone rings.

### The structure of 2-bromo-3,3,5,5-tetramethylcyclohexanone

#### Crystal data

2-Bromo-3,3,5,5-tetramethylcyclohexanone (hereafter referred to as MTC) m.p.  $52.5\text{--}53.5^\circ\text{C}$ .

Orthorhombic

$a = 6.05 \pm 0.016$ ,  $b = 12.24 \pm 0.007$ ,  $c = 15.11 \pm 0.009$  Å;  
 $D_m = 1.34$  g.cm $^{-3}$ ,  $D_x = 1.37$  g.cm $^{-3}$  for  $Z = 4$ ;  
 $\mu = 51$  cm $^{-1}$  for Cu  $K\alpha$  radiation.

The space group was determined from oscillation and Weissenberg photographs. Absent spectra were found to be  $h00$  for  $h$  odd,  $0k0$  for  $k$  odd, and  $00l$  for  $l$  odd, and hence the space group is determined uniquely as  $P2_12_12_1$  ( $D_2^4$ ). Although the bulk material is optically inactive in solution the molecule of MTC contains an asymmetric carbon atom C(2), and thus

in the space group  $P2_12_12_1$ , any one crystal can contain either the D or the L stereoisomeride. The crystals were so poorly formed it was not possible to separate the crystals of the two stereoisomers; no chemical method of resolution has been attempted. There is, however, no doubt that the space group has been correctly determined because the three-dimensional Patterson syntheses cannot be interpreted in any other way, because an  $R$  index as low as 0.14 is unlikely to be obtained with the incorrect space group, and because of the general appearance of the final three-dimensional electron density map.

#### Intensity data

The crystals of MTC were of poor quality, being roughly rectangular parallelepipeds with poorly defined faces. To prevent evaporation they were coated in 'Aerolyte'. The intensities of the reflexions were recorded for the layers  $h = 0 \rightarrow 5$  by the use of multiple-film equi-inclination Weissenberg photographs with Cu  $K\alpha$  radiation and the intensities were measured visually. Corrections for polarization and Lorentz factors were made and approximate absorption corrections were applied by assuming a cylindrical shape. The number of reflexions recorded (725) represents only 55% of the number possible in the layers recorded. The poor crystals made it impossible to record Weissenberg photographs, about the  $b$  or  $c$  axes, of sufficient quality to give reliable intensities.

#### The structure determination and refinement

A three-dimensional Patterson synthesis gave the coordinates of the bromine atom and a bromine-phase three-dimensional electron-density map enabled the

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Table 1. *Final coordinates and their standard deviations. MTC*

Atom	$x$	$\sigma_x$	$y$	$\sigma_y$	$z$	$\sigma_z$
Br	1.014 Å	0.003 <sub>6</sub> Å	2.428 Å	0.004 Å	3.004 Å	0.004 Å
C(1)	1.04	0.030	4.35	0.028	0.88	0.027
C(2)	1.94	0.027	3.76	0.029	2.05	0.026
C(3)	2.44	0.026	4.95	0.030	2.90	0.030
C(4)	3.13	0.027	6.01	0.030	1.97	0.028
C(5)	2.46	0.027	6.49	0.030	0.75	0.030
C(6)	1.96	0.031	5.25	0.027	-0.05	0.027
C(7)	1.21	0.036	5.53	0.032	3.72	0.034
C(8)	3.48	0.033	4.49	0.035	3.95	0.036
C(9)	3.56	0.032	7.13	0.035	-0.14	0.034
C(10)	1.32	0.032	7.45	0.036	1.04	0.033
O	-0.06	0.016	4.05	0.020	0.73	0.021

position of the molecule to be identified and all the carbon and oxygen atoms to be located. Initially the refinement was carried out with electron-density maps and was completed by least-squares methods, an anisotropic temperature factor being given to the bromine atom and individual isotropic temperature factors to the other atoms. During this stage difficulty was experienced with the temperature factor and scaling refinements, owing to the lack of intensities recorded about another axis for correlation purposes. Alternate cycles of coordinate refinement using the complete data and temperature factor and scaling refinement for each layer separately were carried out. Four of these double cycles reduced the  $R$  index to 0.14 for the observed reflexions. A repre-

sentation of the final three-dimensional electron-density map is shown in Fig. 1, the final coordinates and their standard deviations in Table 1, the bond lengths and bond angles in Table 2 and the observed and calculated structure factors in Table 3. The accuracy of the structure determination is not high but is sufficiently so to show significant strain in the molecule and this will be discussed later. The structure also shows that the bromine atom is in the equatorial position, although Sandris & Ourisson's work showed only 30% existing in solution.

Table 2. *Bond lengths and angles and their e.s.d.'s. MTC*

Bond	$l$	$\sigma_l$
C(1)-C(2)	1.59 Å	0.04 Å
C(2)-C(3)	1.55	0.04
C(3)-C(4)	1.57	0.04
C(4)-C(5)	1.47	0.04
C(5)-C(6)	1.56	0.04
C(6)-C(1)	1.59	0.04
C(3)-C(7)	1.59	0.04
C(3)-C(8)	1.55	0.04
C(5)-C(9)	1.55	0.04
C(5)-C(10)	1.52	0.04
C(1)-O	1.15	0.03 <sub>A</sub>
C(2)-Br	1.88	0.02 <sub>B</sub>
Angle	$\theta$	$\sigma_\theta$
C(6)-C(1)-C(2)	108°	2.1°
C(1)-C(2)-C(3)	107	2.1
C(2)-C(3)-C(4)	110	2.1
C(3)-C(4)-C(5)	121	2.1
C(4)-C(5)-C(6)	108	2.2
C(5)-C(6)-C(1)	110	2.0
C(2)-C(3)-C(7)	108	2.1
C(2)-C(3)-C(8)	111	2.3
C(7)-C(3)-C(8)	106	2.3
C(4)-C(3)-C(7)	113	2.2
C(4)-C(3)-C(8)	108	2.2
C(4)-C(5)-C(9)	107	2.2
C(4)-C(5)-C(10)	113	2.3
C(9)-C(5)-C(10)	112	2.4
C(6)-C(5)-C(9)	105	2.3
C(6)-C(5)-C(10)	111	2.3
C(6)-C(1)-O	129	2.3
C(2)-C(1)-O	123	2.2
C(1)-C(2)-Br	111	1.7
C(3)-C(2)-Br	116	1.7

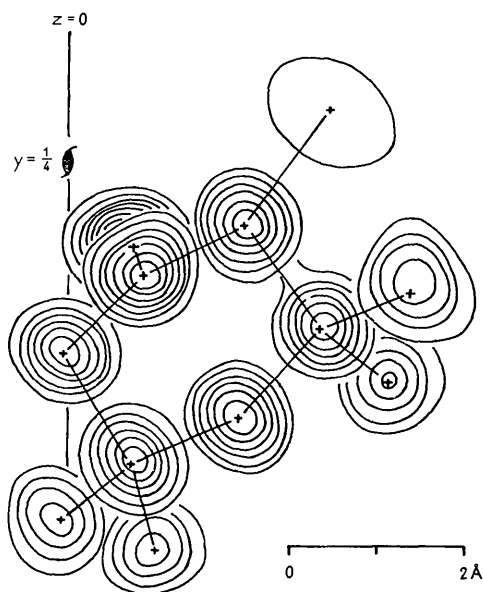


Fig. 1. A representation of the final 3-D electron-density map of MTC viewed along  $a$ .

sentation of the final three-dimensional electron-density map is shown in Fig. 1, the final coordinates



Table 4. *Final coordinates and their standard deviations. DTC*

Atom	$x$	$\sigma_x$	$y$	$\sigma_y$	$z$	$\sigma_z$
Br	5.374 Å	0.003 Å	4.018 Å	0.003 Å	2.889 Å	0.003 Å
Br	5.579	0.004	-0.053	0.003	-1.028	0.003
C(1)	5.29	0.028	1.78	0.021	1.18	0.022
C(2)	4.50	0.025	0.66	0.021	0.45	0.021
C(3)	4.05	0.025	-0.43	0.020	1.45	0.021
C(4)	3.28	0.033	0.37	0.027	2.53	0.028
C(5)	3.96	0.027	1.46	0.023	3.29	0.022
C(6)	4.43	0.025	2.46	0.020	2.17	0.020
C(7)	5.17	0.030	-1.27	0.028	1.96	0.030
C(8)	3.10	0.039	-1.34	0.032	0.77	0.033
C(9)	2.83	0.039	2.19	0.034	4.10	0.033
C(10)	5.00	0.030	1.08	0.025	4.22	0.025
O	6.43	0.023	2.03	0.019	0.91	0.019

tion. The intensities of the reflexions were recorded for the layers  $h=0 \rightarrow 5$  by multiple-film equi-inclination Weissenberg photographs with Cu  $K\alpha$  radiation, and the intensities were measured visually. Corrections for polarization and Lorentz factors were made and cylindrical absorption corrections were applied. The number of reflexions observed (1074) represents 75% of the number possible in the layers recorded. It proved impossible to record suitable Weissenberg photographs for intensity measurement about the other axes.

#### *The structure determination and refinement*

The (100) Patterson projection gave the  $y$  and  $z$  coordinates of the two bromine atoms and a (100) electron-density projection using the bromine signs showed a likely position of the molecule. Three cycles of difference synthesis refinement reduced the  $R$  index from 0.30 to 0.23. A three-dimensional Patterson synthesis confirmed the bromine coordinates and a

three-dimensional electron-density map based on the bromine phases was calculated. With the help of the (100) projection, and using the information that the rest of the molecule lies between two bromine atoms a certain distance apart, it was possible to find the positions of the oxygen and four of the ring carbon atoms from this first electron-density map. The

Table 5. *Bond lengths and angles and their standard deviations. DTC*

Bond	$l$	$\sigma_l$
C(1)-C(2)	1.55 Å	0.032 Å
C(2)-C(3)	1.54	0.030
C(3)-C(4)	1.54	0.036
C(4)-C(5)	1.50	0.037
C(5)-C(6)	1.57	0.030
C(6)-C(1)	1.49	0.032
C(3)-C(7)	1.45	0.037
C(3)-C(8)	1.57	0.044
C(5)-C(9)	1.49	0.042
C(5)-C(10)	1.49	0.040
C(1)-O	1.19	0.036
C(2)-Br	1.96	0.021
C(6)-Br	1.96	0.022

Angle	$\theta$	$\sigma_\theta$
C(6)-C(1)-C(2)	111°	1.8°
C(1)-C(2)-C(3)	110	1.6
C(2)-C(3)-C(4)	104	1.7
C(3)-C(4)-C(5)	120	2.1
C(4)-C(5)-C(6)	104	1.8
C(5)-C(6)-C(1)	111	1.6
C(2)-C(3)-C(8)	108	1.9
C(2)-C(3)-C(7)	116	2.0
C(7)-C(3)-C(8)	108	2.1
C(4)-C(3)-C(8)	106	2.2
C(4)-C(3)-C(10)	115	2.0
C(6)-C(5)-C(9)	107	1.9
C(6)-C(5)-C(10)	112	1.9
C(9)-C(5)-C(10)	107	2.1
C(4)-C(5)-C(9)	109	2.2
C(4)-C(5)-C(10)	117	2.0
C(2)-C(1)-O	122	1.9
C(6)-C(1)-O	127	1.9
C(1)-C(2)-Br	111	1.5
C(3)-C(2)-Br	112	1.3
C(1)-C(6)-Br	108	1.5
C(5)-C(6)-Br	113	1.3

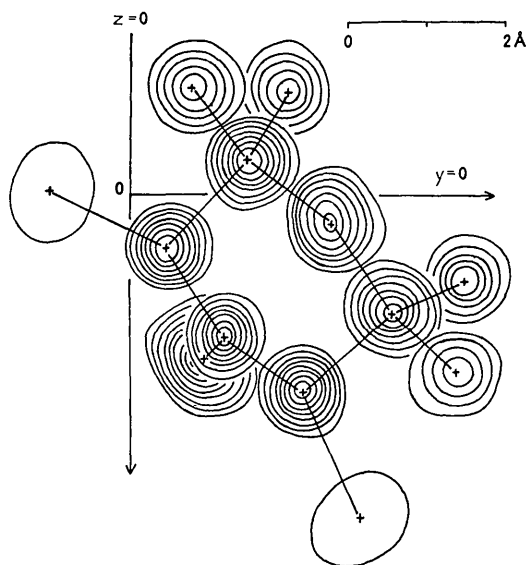


Fig. 2. A representation of the final 3-D electron-density map of DTC viewed along  $a$ .



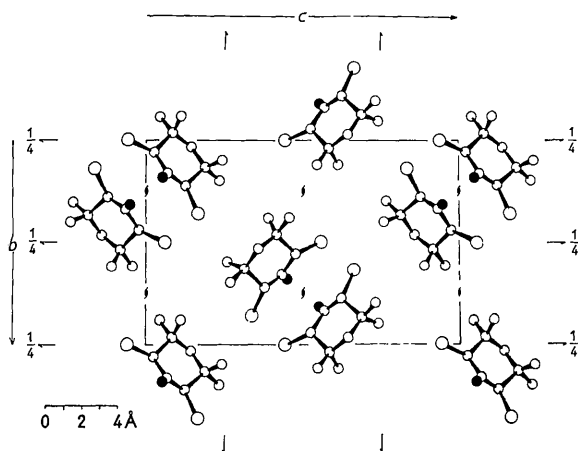
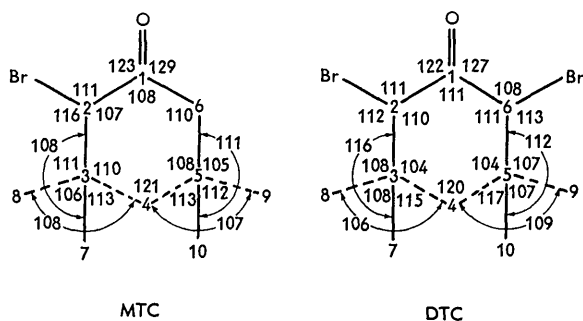
Fig. 4. The crystal structure of DTC viewed along *a*.

Fig. 5. The bond angles of MTC and DTC.

The bond lengths in MTC and DTC show no significant differences from the accepted values ( $\sigma(l) = 0.04 \text{ \AA}$ , for bonds involving light atoms) and such strain introduced appears as a distortion of the bond angles. Despite an asymmetrical environment in the crystal the symmetry of the molecules (Fig. 5) suggests that the strain is introduced primarily by the bulky substituents (except for the effect on the carbonyl group mentioned above).

In both MTC and DTC the carbon atoms C(2), C(3), C(5) and C(6) lie very close (within  $0.025 \text{ \AA}$  for MTC,  $0.005 \text{ \AA}$  for DTC) to the best (least-squares) plane through them. It has been shown (Goaman &

Grant, 1963) that if this plane is taken as a reference plane for the calculation of the atomic coordinates in the molecules, then the positions of the atoms in MTC and DTC can be compared directly with an ideal cyclohexanone ring referred to the same system of axes. This comparison shows that the six-membered rings of both MTC and DTC are distorted considerably from the ideal ring, the strain occurring mainly at the ring angles at C(1) and C(4), and moreover the strain is very similar in both MTC and DTC (Fig. 5 and Table 7).

Table 7. *The ring angles of DTC and MTC*

The standard deviation of the observed angles is about  $2^\circ$

Ring angle at	Ideal cyclohexanone	DTC	MTC
C(1)	$120^\circ$	$111^\circ$	$108^\circ$
C(2)	109.5	110	107
C(3)	109.5	104	110
C(4)	109.5	120	121
C(5)	109.5	104	108
C(6)	109.5	111	110

The angle at C(1) has been reduced from  $120^\circ$  to  $108^\circ$  ( $111^\circ$  in DTC) and that at C(4) increased from  $109.5^\circ$  to  $121^\circ$  ( $120^\circ$  in DTC); the steric effects have reversed the magnitudes of these ring angles. Calculation of the coordinates of the atoms in an ideal 'reversed' cyclohexanone ring, *i.e.* a ring in which the angle at C(4) is  $120^\circ$  and that at C(1) is  $109.5^\circ$ , shows that the rings of MTC and DTC resemble this ring and each other very closely. A comparison of the calculated and observed coordinates of the substituents emphasizes this resemblance (Goaman & Grant, 1963).

The cause of the ring being strained in this way is primarily the close approach of the axial methyl groups. In the unstrained ring these methyl groups would be  $2.43 \text{ \AA}$  apart whereas if the angle at C(4) is increased to  $120^\circ$  the approach distance is increased to  $3.24 \text{ \AA}$ . The calculated and observed distances between these and other substituents are given in Table 8 (Goaman & Grant, 1963). This 'rocking apart' of the axial methyl groups has been used to account for the preferential formation of the di-equatorial form of the dibromo compound (the 'reflex' effect)

Table 8. *Calculated and observed distances between substituents*

Distance between	Ideal	Ideal	DTC	MTC
	cyclohexanone ring	'reversed' cyclohexanone ring		
Axial methyl groups	$2.43 \text{ \AA}$	$3.24 \text{ \AA}$	$3.37 \text{ \AA}$	$3.30 \text{ \AA}$
Equatorial methyl groups	4.96	4.92	4.86	4.87
Bromine-axial methyl	3.04	3.09	3.24, 3.25	3.19
Bromine-equatorial methyl	3.21	3.21	3.33, 3.36	3.35
Bromine-bromine	5.49	5.60	5.65	—
Bromine-oxygen	2.91	3.00	2.99, 2.97	2.99

(Waegell & Ourisson, 1961). In a recent paper (Waegell, Pouzet & Ourisson, 1964), the most likely conformation for these compounds has been calculated by minimizing the angular strain within the ring. It is shown that the 'rocking apart' of the axial methyl groups would result in the formation of a 'reversed' cyclohexanone ring and the values for the ring angles obtained from these calculations are shown to be in good agreement with the angles obtained by the X-ray analysis of the crystal structures described here.

Despite the large distortion in the ring angle at C(1), the atoms C(1), C(6), C(2) and O remain planar, in both compounds, within the accuracy of the determination.

Other bond angles which are significantly different from the accepted values involve the substituents and are strained to reduce the steric hindrance between the methyl groups and the bromine atoms,

e.g. C(3)-C(2)-Br = 116° in MTC and C(3)-C(2)-Br = 113°, C(5)-C(6)-Br = 113° in DTC.

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## Short Communications

*Contributions intended for publication under this heading should be expressly so marked; they should not exceed about 1000 words; they should be forwarded in the usual way to the appropriate Co-editor; they will be published as speedily as possible. Publication will be quicker if the contributions are without illustrations.*

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**Crystal data (I) for some pregnenes and pregnadienes.\*** By BARBARA A. HANER and DORITA A. NORTON, *Department of Biophysics, Roswell Park Memorial Institute, Buffalo, New York, U.S.A.*

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Crystal data for seven pregnenes and pregnadienes have been determined from reciprocal lattice measurements on a General Electric XRD 5 X-ray diffraction unit, equipped with goniostat, using Cu K $\alpha$  radiation.

Space groups have been established on the basis of systematic absences and optical activity. Flotation density measurements were made and used to determine the number of molecules per unit cell. Measured and

calculated densities agree within the experimental range of error (3%).

The crystal data obtained are given in Table 1.

\* This investigation was supported in part by a P.H.S. research grant (CA-6183) from the National Cancer Institute, Public Health Service.

Table 1. *Crystal data (I) for pregnenes and pregnadienes*

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Formula	C <sub>21</sub> H <sub>30</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>21</sub> H <sub>32</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>21</sub> H <sub>30</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	C <sub>21</sub> H <sub>26</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	C <sub>23</sub> H <sub>32</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>21</sub> H <sub>30</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>21</sub> H <sub>28</sub> O <sub>5</sub>
Mol. wt.	314.45	316.47	362.47	358.44	356.49	314.45	360.46
D <sub>m</sub> (g.cm <sup>-3</sup> )	1.15 <sub>8</sub>	1.15 <sub>1</sub>	1.27 <sub>8</sub>	1.33 <sub>2</sub>	1.13 <sub>6</sub>	1.10 <sub>1</sub>	1.30 <sub>1</sub>
D <sub>x</sub> (g.cm <sup>-3</sup> )	1.160	1.188	1.252	1.319	1.166	1.094	1.293
Z (calc.)	4	2	8	4	4	8	4
Space group	P2 <sub>1</sub> 2 <sub>1</sub> 2 <sub>1</sub>	P2 <sub>1</sub>	P2 <sub>1</sub> 2 <sub>1</sub> 2 <sub>1</sub>	P2 <sub>1</sub> 2 <sub>1</sub> 2 <sub>1</sub>	P2 <sub>1</sub> 2 <sub>1</sub> 2 <sub>1</sub>	P2 <sub>1</sub> 2 <sub>1</sub> 2 <sub>1</sub>	P2 <sub>1</sub> 2 <sub>1</sub> 2 <sub>1</sub>
a (Å)†	12.568	12.054	12.441	9.999	12.494	14.716	10.063
b (Å)†	13.819	11.867	30.496	23.029	27.195	26.764	23.649
c (Å)†	10.363	6.185	10.139	7.839	5.975	9.695	7.780
β	—	91.53°	—	—	—	—	—
Volume (Å <sup>3</sup> )	1800	884	3847	1805	2030	3818	1852
Solvent	Heptane-acetone	Methanol	Ethanol	Acetone	Methanol	Acetone-methanol	Acetone

† ± 0.008.